



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: RAYBORN, Jerry
Serial No.: 10/090,201
Filed: March 5, 2002
Title: WATER-BASED DRILLING FLUID ADDITIVE CONTAINING
TALC AND CARRIER
Examiner: Tucker, Philip Art Unit: 1712
Docket: P-0023-US

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
United States Patent & Trademark Office
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. Sec 1.16

In response to the Official Action dated March 10, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

30. (currently amended) The method of Claim 23 wherein said talc comprises from about 2 % to about ~~50~~ 25% of said additive mixture, said carrier comprises from about 50 % to about 96 % of said additive mixture, and said beads comprises from about 2 % to about ~~50~~ 25% of said additive mixture.

33. (currently amended) The drilling fluid additive of Claim 31 wherein said talc comprises from about 2 % to about ~~50~~ 25% of said additive mixture, said carrier comprises from about 50 % to about 96 % of said additive mixture, and said beads comprise from about 2 % to about ~~50~~ 25% of said additive mixture.